

# UNIX essentials (hands-on)

- the directory tree
- running programs
- the shell (using the T-shell)
  - command line processing
  - special characters
  - command types
  - shell variables
  - environment variables
  - wildcards
  - shell scripts
  - shell commands
  - pipes and redirection
- OS commands
- special files

- **The Directory Tree**

- directories contain files and/or directories
- / : means either the root directory, or a directory separator
  - consider `/home/afniuser/AFNI_data3`   `SurfData/SUMA`
  - consider also `/Users/macuser47/AFNI_data3`
- an "absolute" pathname begins with '/', a "relative" pathname does not
  - a relative pathname depends on where you start from
  - in the directories above, note which is a relative pathname
- every directory has a parent directory
  - the relative pathname for the parent directory is '..'
  - the relative pathname for the current directory is '.'
  - consider `./run_this_script` and `/bin/ls ../../suma_demo`
- many commands can be used to return to the home directory (of "afniuser")
  - " `cd`,   `cd ~`,   `cd ~afniuser`,   `cd $HOME`,   `cd /home/afniuser`
    - note the 2 special characters, '~' and '\$'
- while you work, keep your location within the directory tree in mind

→ class work:

- open a terminal window
- commands: `cd`, `pwd`, `ls`, `ls -al`
- use the "`cd`" command to go to the given directories, once there, enter each of the other 3 commands
  - e.g. for directory `/usr/bin`, use the command: `cd /usr/bin`
  - once there, use the commands "`pwd`", "`ls`", and "`ls -al`"
  - note that you can always return to the home directory via: `cd`

```
AFNI_data3    ..    AFNI_data3/afni    ..    ~/abin
```

- first example (starting with the '`AFNI_data3`' directory), use the commands:

```
cd AFNI_data3
pwd
ls
ls -al
```

## • Running Programs

- a program is something that gets "executed", or "run"
- the first element of a command line is generally a program (followed by a space)
- most shells are case sensitive when processing a command
- command examples:
  - `/bin/ls $HOME ~/AFNI_data3`
  - `count -digits 2 1 10`
- script: an interpreted program (interpreted by another program)
  - e.g. shell script, javascript, perl script, afni startup script
  - view the regression script: `cat ~/AFNI_data3/afni/epi_r1_regress`
- some commands: `cd`, `pwd`, `echo`, `ls`, `wc`, `cat`, `less`, `nedit`, `man`
  - `cd`      `~/AFNI_data4`      - change directories
  - `wc`      `s2.anova`      - word count
  - `cat`      `s2.anova`      - concatenate (to terminal)
  - `less`      `s2.anova`      - a text file perusal program
  - `nedit`      `s2.anova`      - a graphical text editor
  - `man`      `wc`      - an online manual (runs in `less` mode)
- basic keystrokes for `less` (and `man`): *Enter*, *Space*, *b*, *g*, *G*, *h*, *q*

- **The Shell**

- command interpreter (case and syntax sensitive)
- examples: tcsh, csh, sh, bash, ksh, zsh, wish, tclsh, rsh, ssh
- command: `echo $SHELL`
- the T-shell: `/bin/tcsh`
  - an enhanced C-shell (`cs`h), which has C programming style syntax

- **Command Line Processing** (simplified outline):

- 1) evaluate special characters, such as: ~ \$ & \* ? \ ' " ` |
  - 2) decide which program to execute (more on this later)
    - absolute pathname? alias? shell command? in the `$PATH`?
  - 3) execute appropriate program, passing to it the parameter list
  - 4) save the execution status in the `$status` variable (0 is considered success)
- command: `echo hello $HOME '$pickle'`
  - tcsh has automatic filename completion using the Tab key
    - type "`ls suma`" and hit the *Tab* key, watch what happens, and hit *Enter*
    - type "`ls AF`" and hit the *Tab* key, note what happens
    - note: this require setting the shell variable, `filec`

- **Special Characters**

~ : the current user's home directory (e.g. /home/user), same as \$HOME

\$ : used to access a variable (e.g. \$home)

& : used to put a command in the background (e.g. afni &)

\* : wildcard, matching zero or more characters (e.g. echo AFNI\_da\*)

? : wildcard, matching exactly one character (e.g. ls AFNI\_data?)

\ : command line continuation (must be the last character on the line)

' : the shell will not evaluate special characters contained within these quotes

(e.g. echo '\$HOME' → will output \$HOME, not /home/afniuser)

(e.g. 3dbucket -prefix small\_func 'func\_slim+orig[0,2..4]')

" : the shell will evaluate \$variables and `commands` contained within these

(e.g. echo "[\*] my home dir is \$HOME")

(e.g. echo "the numbers are 'count -digits 2 7 12'")

` : execute the command contained within these quotes, and replace the quoted part with the output of the contained command

(e.g. echo "the numbers are `count -digits 2 7 12`")

## • Command Types

- the shell must decide what type of command it has:
  - pathname for a program: execute that program
  - alias: apply any alias(es) then start over (decide on which program to run)
  - shell command: part of the `/bin/tcsh` program
  - check the `$PATH` directories for the program

- consider the commands:

```
/bin/ls AFNI_data3/afni
```

```
ls AFNI_data3/afni
```

```
cd AFNI_data3/afni
```

```
wc ~/AFNI_data3/afni/epi_r1_ideal.1D
```

- the "which" command shows where the shell gets a command from:

```
which ls
```

```
which cd
```

```
which wc
```

## • The PATH Variable

- a list of directories to be searched for a given program to be run from
- the `$path` and `$PATH` variables are identical, but are represented differently
- commands: 

```
echo $PATH
```

```
echo $path
```

```
cat ~/.cshrc
```

## • Shell Variables

- shell variables are variables that are stored in, and affect the shell
- all variables are stored as strings (or as arrays of strings)
- a variable is accessed via the '\$' character
- the 'echo' command: echo the line after processing any special characters
  - command: `echo my home dir, $HOME, holds ~/*`
- the 'set' command: set or assign values to one or more variables
  - without arguments: 'set' displays all variables, along with any values
  - 'set' takes a list of variables to set, possibly with values
  - consider the commands:

```
set food
echo $food
set food = pickle
echo $food
set food eat = chocolate donut    (emphasis: food eat = chocolate donut)
set
set food = eat chocolate donut
set food = "eat chocolate donut"
echo $food
```



→ variables can be assigned the result of a numerical computation using the '@' command, however only integer arithmetic is allowed

- commands: `set value1 = 17`

- `@ value2 = $value1 * 2 + 6`

- `echo value2 = $value2`

- **Array Variables**

- array variables are set using ()

- consider the commands:

- `set stuff = ( 11 12 13 seven 15 )`

- `echo $stuff`

- `echo $stuff[1]`

- `echo $stuff[2-4]`

- `echo $stuff[8]`

- `set stuff = ( hi $stuff $food )`

- `echo $stuff`

- `echo $path`

- `cat ~/.cshrc`

- **Environment Variables**

- similar to shell variables, but their values will propagate to children shells
- by convention, these variables are all upper-case (though it is not required)
- similarly, shell variables are generally all lower-case
- set environment variables using "**setenv**" (as opposed to the "**set**" command)
- without any parameters, the "**setenv**" command will display all variables
- the "**setenv**" command will only set or assign one variable at a time
- the format for the command to set a value is (without any '=' sign):

**setenv VARIABLE value**

- commands:

**setenv MY\_NAME Elvis**

**echo \$MY\_NAME**

**echo \$path**

**echo \$PATH**

**echo \$HOME**

**setenv**

- **Wildcards**

- used for shell-attempted filename matching

- special characters for wildcards:

- `*, ?, [, ], ^`

- `*` : matches any string of zero or more characters

- (special case: a lone `*` will not match files starting with `'.'`)

- `?` : matches exactly one character

- `[ ]` : matches any single character within the square brackets

- `[ ^ ]` : matches any single character EXCEPT for those within the brackets

- commands (run from the `~/AFNI_data3/MPRAGE_anat` directory):

- `ls`

- `ls *`

- `ls -a`

- `ls M*3.dcm`

- `ls M*0*3.dcm`

- `ls M*0?3.dcm`

- `ls M*[23]*.dcm`

- `ls M*[ ^23]*.dcm`

- `echo M*[ ^23]*.dcm`

- **Shell Scripts**

- a text file, a sequence of shell commands
- the '\' character can be used for line continuation (for readability)
  - for that purpose, it must be the last character on the line (including spaces)
- executing shell scripts, 3 methods:
  - 1) `./filename` : (safest) execute according to the top `"#!program"`
    - if no such line, usually executed via `bash` (a potential programming error)
    - the file must have execute permissions (see `'ls -l'`)
  - 2) `tcsh filename` : execute as t-shell commands
  - 3) `source filename` : execute using current shell
    - affects current environment
    - this method should be used only when that is the intention (e.g. `.cshrc`)
- consider `~/AFNI_data4/s1.afni_proc.block`
- consider `~/AFNI_data3/afni/rall_regress`
- use the command `"nedit my.script"` to create a script with a few commands

```
echo hi, I am in directory $cwd
ls -a
cd $HOME/AFNI_data3
ls -al
```
- run the script using the command: `tcsh my.script`

- **Some Shell Commands** (handled by the shell)

<b>cd</b>	: change working directory
<b>echo</b>	: echo command line to the terminal window
<b>pwd</b>	: display the present working directory
<b>set</b>	: set variables or assign string values to variables
<b>@</b>	: set a variable to the results of an integral computation
<b>alias</b>	: display or create an alias (e.g. <b>alias hi 'echo hello there' </b> )
<b>bg</b>	: put a process in the background (usually after ctrl-z)
<b>fg</b>	: put a process in the foreground
<b>exit</b>	: terminate the shell
<b>setenv</b>	: set environment variables
<b>source</b>	: execute a script within the current shell environment

- special keystrokes (to use while a process is running)

<b>ctrl-c</b>	: send an interrupt signal to the current process
<b>ctrl-z</b>	: send a suspend signal to the current process

- **More Shell Commands: basic flow control**

→ commands: `if`, `else`, `endif`, `while`, `end`, `foreach`

---

```
if ( $user == "elvis" ) then
    echo 'the king lives'
endif
```

---

```
set value = 5
set fact = 1
while ( $value > 0 )
    @ fact = $fact * $value
    @ value -= 1
end
echo 5 factorial = $fact
```

---

```
foreach value ( 1 2 3 four eight 11 )
    echo the current value is $value
end
```

---

```
foreach file ( I.*3 )
    ls -l $file
end
```

## • Pipes and Redirection

> : redirect program output (stdout) to a file

e.g. `3dmerge -help > 3dmerge.help`

`3dmerge -pickle > 3dmerge.help`

>& : redirect all output (both `stdout` and `stderr`) to a file

e.g. `3dmerge -pickle >& 3dmerge.pickle`

e.g. `tcsh my.script >& script.output`

>> : append program output to a file

e.g. `echo "more info: value = $val" >> script.output`

| : pipe standard output to the input of another program

e.g. `3dDeconvolve -help | less`

|& : include `stderr` in the pipe

e.g. `tcsh -x my.big.script |& tee script.output`

- run the script (echo commands to terminal before executing)
- send all output to the tee program
- the tee program duplicates the input, sending the output to both the terminal and the given file (`script.output`)
- you can see the output, but it is also stored for future analysis

## • Some OS Commands

- `ls` : list the contents of a directory
- \* `cat` : concatenate files to the terminal (print them to the screen)
- \* `more` : a file perusal program - view files one page at a time
- \* `less` : a better file perusal program (type `less`, get `more`)
- `man` : on-line manuals for many OS commands (and library functions)
  - this uses a "`less`" interface to display the information
  - e.g. consider `man` on : `ls`, `less`, `man`, `tcsh`, `afni`
- \* `head` : display the top lines of a file (default = 10)
  - e.g. `3dDeconvolve -help | head -25`
- \* `tail` : display the bottom lines of a file (default = 10)
  - e.g. `tail ideal_r1.1D`
- \* `wc` : word count - count characters, words and lines (of a file)
- `cp` : copy files and directories to a new location
- `mv` : rename a file, or move files and directories
- `rm` : BE CAREFUL - remove files and/or directories (no recovery)
  - e.g. `rm junk.file`
  - e.g. `rm -r bad.directory`

- \* denotes a 'filter' program, which can take input from a file or from `stdin`



\* **grep** : print lines from a file that match the given pattern

e.g. **grep path ~/.cshrc**

e.g. **ls ~/abin | grep -i vol**

e.g. from the output of "**3dVol2Surf -help**" show lines which contain 'surf', but not 'surface', then remove duplicates:

```
3dVol2Surf -help | grep surf | grep -v surface | sort | uniq
```

- **Some Special Files (in the home directory)**

**.cshrc** : c-shell startup file ("**csh** run commands")

- set aliases
- adjust the path
- set shell and environment variables

**.afnirc** : **AFNI** startup file

**.sumarc** : **suma** startup file

**.login** : commands run at the start of a login shell (e.g. a terminal window)

**.logout** : commands run before exiting a login shell

**.tcshrc** : t-shell startup file (if it does not exist, the **.cshrc** file will be used)